

Serial No. 09/774,275

Atty. Docket No.: 8160.16016-CIP DIV

Clean amended claims from Preliminary Amendment B dated 22 March 2001



Claim 1

A reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material including at least two areas of structural weakness, having at least one fold structure located between and defined by said two areas of structural weakness, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said skirt structure including a distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said areas of structural weakness and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said areas of structural weakness and into said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening.

Claim 2

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein the skirt web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 3

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein the skirt web material is coupled to the reclosable fastener structure.

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Claim 4

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein the integral skirt includes an outside surface and an inside surface; the distal margin being located on the outside surface; the inside surface including predetermined area having a releasable adhesive material thereon; whereby a peelable seal may be formed.

Claim 5

The reclosable bag of claim 4 wherein the peelable seal, when formed, is hermetic.

Claim 6

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said web material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

Claim 7

The parent film material of claim 6 wherein the areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

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Claim 8

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

Claim 9

The reclosable bag of claim 8 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 10

The reclosable bag of claim 8 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 11

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend nonlinearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of said web material.

Claim 12

The reclosable bag of claim 11 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

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Claim 13

The reclosable bag of claim 11 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 14

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 15

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise perforations.

Claim 16

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claim 17

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise microperforations.

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Claim 18

The reclosable bag of claim 1 wherein said sheet of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

Claim 19

The reclosable bag of claim 18 wherein said multiple laminate film includes at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

Claim 20

The reclosable bag of claim 19 wherein said tear path is hermetic.

Claim 21

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material including a first area of structural weakness and a second area of structural weakness; said sheet of web material including at least one fold structure located between and defined by said first and second areas of structural weakness, and a fill opening; said sheet of web material including a first panel coupled to said fold structure adjacent said first area of structural weakness and a second panel coupled to said fold structure adjacent said second area of structural weakness; a reclosable fastener structure including a male track structure and a female track structure; said male track structure including a first fin structure of

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web material extending therefrom and said female track structure including a second fin structure of web material extending therefrom; each said fin structure including a predetermined coupling portion; said coupling portion of said first fin structure being coupled to said first panel and said coupling portion of said second fin structure being coupled to said second panel; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said areas of structural weakness and into said fold structure; said areas of structural weakness being located below said reclosable fastener structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product through said fill opening.

Claim 22

The reclosable bag of claim 21 wherein said areas of structural weakness are hermetic.

Claim 23

The reclosable bag of claim 21 wherein said fill opening is located generally opposite said fold structure.

Claim 24

The reclosable bag of claim 21 wherein said first fin structure is larger than said second fin structure.

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Claim 25

The reclosable bag of claim 21 wherein said first fin structure and said second fin structure each include a distal margin; said distal margins facing each other and at least one distal margin being coated with a releasable adhesive material.

Claim 26

The reclosable bag of claim 25 wherein said distal margins are releasably coupled to each other by said releasable adhesive material.

Claim 27

The reclosable bag of claim 25 wherein at least one said distal margin is coated with said releasable adhesive material and said distal margin is coupled to a predetermined portion of said web material.

Claim 28

The reclosable bag of claim 21 wherein said first fin structure and said second fin structure are integral to each other and include a predetermined area of structural weakness located between said coupling portion of said first fin structure and said coupling portion of said second fin structure.

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Claim 29

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material, at least one tear tape structure, at least one fold structure, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including at least one integral skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said integral skirt structure including at least one distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said tear tape structure and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said tear tape structure and into said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product.

Claim 30

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material having at least one fold structure presenting at least two sidewall structures having inside surfaces, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including an integral skirt structure comprising a web material extending therefrom and including opposed distal margin structures; said web material of said integral skirt structure being sealed to said inside surfaces at a plurality of predetermined sealing areas; a barrier web material extending between and coupled to said distal margin structures.

Claim 31

The reclosable bag of claim 30 wherein said barrier web material extends between and is coupled to said sidewall structures.

Claim 32

The reclosable bag of claim 31 wherein said barrier web material is coupled to at least one of said sidewall structures by at least one peelable seal.

Claim 33

The reclosable bag of claim 30 wherein said predetermined sealing areas are located on said respective sidewall structures.

Claim 34

The reclosable bag of claim 30 wherein said barrier web material is coupled to said predetermined sealing areas by at least one peelable seal.

Claim 35

The reclosable bag of claim 30 wherein said barrier web material includes at least one area of structural weakness extending generally parallel to said predetermined sealing areas.

Claim 36

The reclosable bag of claim 31 wherein said barrier web material includes at least one area of structural weakness extending generally parallel to said predetermined sealing areas.

Claim 37

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material including at least one predetermined tear area, at least one fold structure, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including at least one integral skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said integral skirt structure including at least one distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said tear area and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said tear area and into said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product.

Claim 38

The reclosable bag of claim 37 further including at least one header material located in a predetermined area of said fold structure.

Claim 39

The reclosable bag of claim 38 wherein said header material includes at least one edge structure adjacent said tear area.

Claim 40

The reclosable bag of claim 37 further including at least one tear tape structure coupled to said web material and adjacent to said tear area.

Claim 41

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material having a propensity to tear along at least two predetermined tear areas; having at least one fold structure located between and defined by said two tear areas, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said skirt structure including a distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said two tear areas and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said two tear areas and into said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening.

Claim 42

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein the skirt web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 43

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein the skirt web material is coupled to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 44

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein the integral skirt includes an outside surface and an inside surface; the distal margin being located on the outside surface; the inside surface including predetermined area having a releasable adhesive material thereon; whereby a peelable seal may be formed.

Claim 45

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein the peelable seal, when formed, is hermetic.

Claim 46

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said web material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

Claim 47

The parent film material of claim 46 wherein the tear areas are integral to said parent film.

Claim 48

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said tear areas extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

Claim 49

The reclosable bag of claim 48 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 50

The reclosable bag of claim 48 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 51

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said tear areas extend nonlinearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of said web material.

Claim 52

The reclosable bag of claim 51 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 53

The reclosable bag of claim 51 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 54

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said tear areas extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 55

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said tear areas comprise perforations.

Claim 56

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said tear areas comprise scoring.

Claim 57

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said tear areas comprise microperforations.

Claim 58

The reclosable bag of claim 41 wherein said sheet of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

Claim 59

The reclosable bag of claim 58 wherein at least one layer of said multiple laminate film material includes said tear areas.

Claim 60

The reclosable bag of claim 59 wherein said tear areas are hermetic.

Claim 61

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material having at least one fold structure located between at least two predetermined areas having a propensity to tear in a predetermined direction and presenting at least two sidewall structures having inside surfaces, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure,

located in said fold structure, including a skirt structure comprising a web material extending therefrom and including opposed distal margin structures; said web material of said integral skirt structure being sealed to said inside surfaces at a plurality of predetermined sealing areas.

Claim 62

The reclosable bag of claim 61 further comprising a barrier web material extending between and coupled to said distal margin structures.

Claim 75

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material including at least two areas of structural weakness, having at least one fold structure located between and defined by said two areas of structural weakness, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said skirt structure including a distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said areas of structural weakness and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said areas of structural weakness; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening.

Claim 76

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said reclosable fastener structure extends over said fold structure.

Claim 77

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein the skirt web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 78

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein the skirt web material is coupled to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 79

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein the web material includes an outside surface and an inside surface; the inside surface including a predetermined area having a releasable adhesive material thereon; whereby a peelable seal may be formed.

Claim 80

The reclosable bag of claim 79 wherein the peelable seal, when formed, is hermetic.

Claim 81

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said web material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

Claim 82

The parent film material of claim 81 wherein the areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

Claim 83

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

Claim 84

The reclosable bag of claim 83 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 85

The reclosable bag of claim 83 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 86

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend nonlinearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of said web material.

Claim 87

The reclosable bag of claim 86 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 88

The reclosable bag of claim 86 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 89

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 90

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise perforations.

Claim 91

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claim 92

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise microperforations.

Claim 93

The reclosable bag of claim 75 wherein said sheet of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

Claim 94

The reclosable bag of claim 93 wherein said multiple laminate film includes at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

Claim 95

The reclosable bag of claim 94 wherein said tear path is hermetic.

Claim 96

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material including at least two areas of structural weakness, having at least one fold structure located between and defined by said two areas of structural weakness, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said skirt structure including a distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said areas of structural weakness and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said areas of structural weakness and over said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening.

Claim 97

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein the skirt web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 98

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein the skirt web material is coupled to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 99

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein the web material includes an outside surface and an inside surface; the inside surface including a predetermined area having a releasable adhesive material thereon; whereby a peelable seal may be formed.

Claim 100

The reclosable bag of claim 99 wherein the peelable seal, when formed, is hermetic.

Claim 101

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said web material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

Claim 102

The parent film material of claim 101 wherein the areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

Claim 103

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

Claim 104

The reclosable bag of claim 103 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 105

The reclosable bag of claim 103 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 106

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend nonlinearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of said web material.

Claim 107

The reclosable bag of claim 106 wherein the predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 108

The reclosable bag of claim 106 wherein the predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 109

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 110

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise perforations.

Claim 111

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claim 112

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise microperforations.

Claim 113

The reclosable bag of claim 96 wherein said sheet of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

Claim 114

The reclosable bag of claim 113 wherein said multiple laminate film includes at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

Claim 115

The reclosable bag of claim 114 wherein said tear path is hermetic.

Claim 116

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material, at least one tear tape structure, at least one fold structure, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including at least one integral skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said integral skirt structure including at least one distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one location between said tear tape structure and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said tear tape structure and over said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product.

Claim 117

A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising: at least one sheet of web material including at least one predetermined tear area, at least one fold structure, and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; a reclosable fastener structure including at least one integral skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom; said integral skirt structure including at least one distal margin; said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one

location between said tear area and said opening; said reclosable fastener structure extending past said tear area and over said fold structure; said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product.

Claim 118

A pre-packaged cheese bag, said bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material having at least one fold structure and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure;

at least one reclosable fastener structure including a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom;

said skirt structure including a distal margin;

said distal margin being coupled to said web material at, at least one predetermined location; and

said pre-packaged cheese bag being filled with at least one cheese.

Claim 119

A pre-packaged cheese bag, said bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material having at least one fold structure;

at least one reclosable fastener structure coupled to said sheet of web material at, at least one predetermined location said location being generally opposite said fold structure; and

said pre-packaged cheese bag being filled with at least one cheese.

Claim 120

A pre-packaged cheese bag, said bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material;
a reclosable fastener structure coupled to said sheet of web material at, at least one predetermined location; and
a cheese sealed within said bag.

Claim 121

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 120 wherein said at least one sheet of web material further includes a fold structure located generally opposite said reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 122

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 118 wherein said skirt web material is integral to said reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 123

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 118 wherein said skirt web material is coupled to said reclosable fastener structure.

Claim 124

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 122 wherein said integral skirt includes an outside surface and an inside surface; the distal margin being located on the outside surface; the inside surface including a predetermined area having a releasable adhesive material thereon; whereby a peelable seal may be formed.

Claim 125

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 118 wherein said web material of said pre-packaged bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

Claim 126

The prepackaged cheese bag of claim 118 further including at least two areas of structural weakness and wherein said fold structure is located between and defined by said two areas of structural weakness.

Claim 127

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

Claim 128

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

Claim 129

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 128 wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 130

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 128 wherein said predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 131

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend non-linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

Claim 132

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 131 wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

Claim 133

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 131 wherein said predetermined dimension is length.

Claim 134

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 135

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise perforations.

Claim 136

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

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Claim 137

The pre-packaged cheese bag of claim 126 wherein said areas of structural weakness
micro-perforations.